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DE RUEHTRO #0359/01 1191629  
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O R 291629Z APR 09  
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4774  
INFO RUEHKG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 1459  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1045  
RUEHTU/AMEMBASSY TUNIS 0808  
RUEHAS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS 0931  
RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT 0872  
RUEHTRO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI 5304

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 TRIPOLI 000359

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR NEA/MAG AND DRL/NESCA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 4/29/2019

TAGS: **PGOV PHUM KMDR SOCI LY**

SUBJECT: STATE MEDIA PULLS THE PLUG ON SAIF AL-ISLAM'S SATELLITE CHANNEL, ARRESTS MANAGER REF: A. 08 TRIPOLI 679 B. TRIPOLI 208 CLASSIFIED BY: Gene A. Cretz, Ambassador. REASON: 1.4 (b), (d)

1.(C) Summary: State media took over the quasi-independent al-Libiyya satellite television channel on April 24 in the middle of an interview pr AL-LIBIYYA BROADCAST CUT MID-PROGRAM

2.(C) Management of the quasi-independent al-Libiyya satellite television channel changed abruptly on the evening of April 24 when the live brc

3.(C) Saif al-Islam al-Qadhafi, son of Muammar al-Qadhafi, launched al-Libiyya two years ago as part of his al-Ghad Media Group venture. While

4.(C) The Saif-owned daily paper Quryna featured a front-page article on April 28 attributing al-Mishri's arrest and al-Libiyya's potential mov NEW MANAGEMENT AT AL-LIBIYYA AND AL-GHAD

5.(C) State press announced that al-Atti al-Mizughi took over as station manager of al-Libiyya and Mohamed Kilani as CEO in the wake of al-Misr

6.(C) Comment: The reasons for the government's aggressive move against al-Libiyya are unclear. One theory is that program content provoked the